Drowning Deaths, 2015-2017

Drowning remains a substantial public health issue in the United States (US). An average of 10 people each day in the US die from drowning. In the US from 2015-2017, unintentional injuries were the leading cause of death among children aged 1-14 years. Drowning was the most common injury-related death in ages 1-4 years and second in ages 5-14. This fact sheet presents statistics describing the burden of drowning in Texas 2015-2017.

Drowning Facts, Texas, 2015-2017	Drowni	ing Fa	cts, Tex	(as, 201	15-2017
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- The overall death rate of 1.33 per 100,000 was comparable to the national rate of 1.14 per 100,000.
- Over one third of drowning deaths occurred among children and young adults less than 25 years old.
- Males accounted for 77% of drowning deaths with a rate 3.4 times that of females.
- The highest risk group was White non-Hispanic males aged 1-4 years with a death rate of 8.27 per 100,000.
- For records with a reported time of incident, the peak time for drowning fatalities was 2:00 PM 6:00 PM.

Notes and References

*Counts below 20 are not considered stable for rate calculations. All rates are per 100,000 population.

Cases of death by drowning are based on coding from the International Classification of Diseases, Version 10 (ICD-10) including codes W65-W74 and T75.1

Data Source: CDC web-based Injury Statistics Query and Reporting System (WISQARS). www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars.

1. CDC, Water Related Injuries, Unintentional Drowning. www.cdc.gov/homeandrecreationalsafety/water-safety.

Texas, 2015-2017	Count	Rate
Sex		
Male	857	2.06
Female	255	0.61
Total	1,112	1.33
Age Group		
0-14	247	1.35
15-24	150	1.26
25-44	280	1.19
45-64	269	1.35
65+	166	1.66
Total	1,112	1.33
Race/Ethnicity		
White Non-Hispanic	582	1.61
Black Non-Hispanic	173	1.70
Hispanic	299	0.91
Asian/Pacific Islander	54	1.29
Other/Unknown	4	*
Total	1,112	1.33
Place of Residence		
Metropolitan Areas	952	1.28
Non-Metro Areas	160	1.75
Total	1,112	1.33
Deaths by Year		
2015	345	1.26
2016	386	1.38
2017	381	1.35
Total	1,112	1.33

Contact Information

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For more information, visit: dshs.texas.gov/injury

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